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## Girl of the West visits Peterson



Kimberly Belger (right), Girl of the West, and her aide Cassidy Reid, pause for a photo while touring a 302nd Airlift Wing C-130. The pair visited **Peterson Complex** units Monday through Wednesday promoting the upcoming Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

By Staff Sgt. Gino Mattorano 21st SW Public Affairs

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Oueen and her aide visited the Peterson complex Monday and Tuesday to help spread the word that the rodeo is coming to town.

The Girl of the West is the representative of the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo and along with her aide, spends her time promoting the rodeo across the country.

The girls spent Monday and Tuesday visiting offices at Peterson and Chevenne Mountain Air Force Station inviting Peterson military members and civilians to attend the rodeo, which is scheduled for Aug. 8-12 at Penrose

Aug. 8 is Air Force Night at the rodeo. The rodeo starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets for the reserved seats in the central grand stand are available at the Peterson Community Activities Center for

\$7.50 by calling 556-7671, or they can be purchased at Penrose Stadium.

What's unique about this rodeo, which is in its 61st year, is that all proceeds are donated to support local military installations.

"Proceeds from the rodeo go to programs that have a widespread benefit to the military community at each base in the local area," said Bob Paige, 21st Services Squadron deputy director. "In previous years, money has been donated to Peterson's Caring Through Sharing program, the Lending Locker as well as the Youth Center.'

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is one of the largest Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association-sanctioned rodeos in the nation and will feature the country's top professional rodeo cowboys and cowgirls competing for more than \$200,000 in prize

## Rodeo activities

Celebrations surrounding the rodeo kick off Wednesday with the Street Breakfast and Range Ride. This old fashioned street breakfast runs 5:30-9 a.m. Enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, juice, coffee and live music. The Pikes Peak Range Riders take off after the breakfast for a five-day ride through the Rocky Mountains. Tickets for the street breakfast are \$4.50 at the Peterson Community Activities Center and \$5 at the breakfast.

Aug. 8 is Air Force Night at the rodeo. The rodeo starts at 7:30 p.m. at Penrose Stadium. Proceeds from the rodeo benefit local military members and their families. Tickets for the reserved seats in the central Grand Stand are on sale for \$7.50 at the Peterson Community Activities Center and \$12 at Penrose

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade is also Aug. 8. It begins at 10 a.m. and winds its way through the heart of the city. There's no cost to attend the parade.

To get your street breakfast or rodeo tickets at the CAC, call 556-7671. (Information courtesy of Margie Arnold, 21st SVS marketing)

# Some did not get correct pay, officials say

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, extended their enlistment since late Texas - Air Force Personnel Center officials here are asking people who have re-enlisted, extended their enlistments or been promoted recently to look closely at their latest Leave and Earnings Statements to ensure they are receiving all of their pay.

Problems with the Air Force's new personnel data system may have caused the "suspension of pay records" for hundreds who re-enlisted within 30 days of their dates of separation or who have

April. These problems could lead to those individuals not being paid, said officials here.

"What this means is that some folks may not have gotten paid, or may not see expected increases in their pay," said Lt. Col. Richard Treasure, chief of the systems requirements division here. "This really bothers us since we've been working hardest with this transition to keep peoples' pay from being affected. And it takes on that much more urgency now."

Another problem affects the pay of airmen promoted in June.

Some officers and enlisted members promoted in June did not get their pay increase on time, according to Treasure. That problem should be corrected by the middle of July, he said.

Individuals at the Peterson Complex who find discrepancies with their LES can contact 2nd Lt. John Decker, financial services officer, at 556-7576.

(Information courtesy of AFPC News Service)

## McGinty takes Air Force Aid Society reins

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - While on active duty as the deputy chief of staff for personnel in Washington, he served on the board of trustees for the Air Force Aid Society. Now, retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty is back as the chief executive officer.

In his new job, McGinty said he plans to focus on helping Air Force people and their families wherever, whenever and however that help is needed.

It is a great job, he said, one that will give him the opportunity to spread the word about the AFAS and its benefits.

"When you work for an organization that offers all this help," he said, "you can go home at night and feel really good about what you were able to do during the day.'

And to tell the AFAS story, McGinty said he plans to visit as many bases as possible.

"I cannot do this job well if I sit in my office here in Washington every day," he said.

McGinty said he also wants to meet with a wide cross-section of people and tell them what AFAS offers, find out what they think it can do better, and hear about additional programs they would like to see.

"I want to ensure everyone is aware of their Air Force Aid Society and the AFAS programs that can

Gen. Hap Arnold founded AFAS in 1942. Its mission was to take care of the families of Army Air Corps members. Last year, about 30,000 Air Force people and their families were helped with roughly

Assistance is provided via emergency grants and time parents programs loans with zero interest, community enhancement programs to improve quality of life on Air Force bases, and education programs.

Providing emergency assistance is "job one" for the society, McGinty said.

In 2000, more than 15,000 people found that out firsthand. They received aid for emergencies ranging from funeral expenses to basic living

Still, McGinty said, there were likely others who needed help and did not know where to turn.

"My predecessor told me that his biggest concern was that somewhere in the Air Force today there is somebody who needs help that AFAS could provide, but for some reason they don't get it," he said. "They may be afraid to ask, they may not know (about us) or they may feel there is a stigma to asking.

"(On) Christmas Eve an airman and spouse were found living in a car. That should never happen in our Air Force blue-suit family," he said. "Air Force Aid could have helped. Our job is to help Air Force peo-

Community enhancement programs include providing free childcare for volunteers and families making a permanent change of station, and stress-relief for parents under the Give Parents a Break program.

Other programs include the following: Car Care Because We Care: provides preven tive vehicle maintenance inspections

Bundles for Babies: provides baby gifts to new and expectant mothers

Nursing Moms: provides assistance in breast pump rentals and purchases

- Wellness: provides enhancements to first-

- Phone Home: provides people deployed 30 days or longer with a prepaid \$20 phone card

- Youth Employment Skills: provides education and base community dollar credits for high school students who volunteer on base

Last year, 5,000 grants for \$1,500 each were awarded to children and spouses to assist with education costs. Another 3,550 spouses overseas received tuition assistance. Money is also available to spouses for short-term job training.

Fifty-eight percent of people who applied for education assistance in 2000 received help, McGinty said.

Another goal McGinty has is to strengthen the partnership between the Air Force Aid Society and the family support network.

'We are totally dependent on the great assistance family support provides to our programs," he said. "And, when both organizations work well together, the synergism provides the best possible support to the troops and their families.

"Our programs get people involved," McGinty said. "They pull families, young people and kids, into the family support center.'

But, AFAS is not just focused on the active force, McGinty said. It also wants to help the retired, Guard and Reserve communities.

"They are all important members of the Air Force family and are providing record levels of support to the active force," he said. "We need to ensure we are helping the rest of the Air Force family."

For more information on the Air Force Aid Society or its programs, contact local chapters or check out the AFAS Web site.

## As equipment ages, readiness suffers, say defense officials

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - All the military services are facing readiness problems directly tied to allowing aircraft, equipment and infrastructure to age, Defense Department officials said.

The average age of aircraft, tanks, infantry-fighting vehicles, ships, light-armored vehicles and many other pieces of equipment is increasing. As equipment ages, it becomes more costly and difficult to repair and maintain.

This is a direct result of a "procurement holiday" the last administration took following the Cold War.

"They started drawing down after the Cold War and instead of stopping, they overshot the mark and went way too far," said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. "So, we haven't been buying new equipment. That means the older equipment is getting quite old and when things get old ... they sometimes take a lot more time for repairs

"It just takes longer to get things operable," he said. "One of the things you can do is buy more and retire the stuff that's costing you more than it ought to. And DOD will do some of that."

Another move might be to change the mix.

In aircraft, "if you shifted your weight to some extent toward (unmanned aerial vehicles) you have a different need than with the manned aircraft," Rumsfeld said. "It's conceivable you could retire some things and start dropping the age down and have less repairs. Those decisions will be wrestled with during the Quadrennial Defense Review."

The problem runs across the services. In the Air Force the average age of the air fleet is

22.2 years old. The average age of the B-52 Stratofortress is 39 years. The average age of the B-2 Stealth bomber is 6. In airlift, the average age of C-141 Starlifters is 34 years. The average age of the C-17 Globemaster III fleet is 4.

The average age of the Navy's air fleet is 18 years. This breaks down to 21.1 years for helicopters and 17.2 years for fixed-wing aircraft.

And this will only get worse. The average age of the Air Force air fleet will be 25 years old in fiscal 2007, DOD officials said.

In fiscal 2010, the average age of Navy F-14 Tomcats will be 41 years. In fiscal 2021, the Air Force F-15 Eagles will be 51 years old and the granddaddy of the Air Force, the B-52, will be 90 years old in 2040.

"Clearly, we have to modernize," said a DOD official speaking on background.

Issues with aging military equipment are not limited to air systems. In the Army the "deuce-and-a-half" truck will be 67 years old in fiscal 2017.

"When do people trade in their cars every six or seven years?" the official asked. "These vehicles and systems have the same problems the family car has. There's fatigue and corrosion that you cannot see.'

If something breaks on old systems like these, spare parts may be hard to find. "Parts obsolescence is a problem," the official said. "If you have a system designed in the 1950s, it's tough to get parts for it in 2001."

All this increases the time it takes to keep these systems working. "It takes time from operations, it takes time from training, it takes time from other far more important aspects of the mission, the official said, "We need to solve this problem.

### Action line

## Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder. the Action Line is not a replacement



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.

#### KUDOS to wing units

Thanks for the great support from the 21st Services Squadron, and security forces, for support during our quarterly command run. You have helped us twice now, and I have been very impressed with the professionalism and enthusiasm that your folks have demonstrated as they executed their responsibilities. We couldn't achieve our objectives without such people and their support. Again, well done, and please pass my appreciation to those responsible.

Lt. Gen. Edward Anderson NORAD/USSPACECOM

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## **Threat Condition becomes Force Protection Condition**

Department of Defense instruction 2000.16 (DoD Antiterrorism Standards) was completed June 14, changing the name Threat Condition to Force Protection Condition.

This change is effective immediately due to the Coal Commission report. All Threatcon signs should be changed to FP CON; Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, or Delta. Signs must be visible on all doors of every facility on Peterson Air Force Base.

With the new title, all definitions, tasks and force protection measures will remain the same.

There are five Force Protection Conditions.

- Force Protection Condition NOR-MAL (Routine Security Posture)

A general threat of possible terrorist activity exists, but warrants only a routine security posture.

- Force Protection Condition ALPHA (General Threat)

A general threat of possible terrorist activity, the nature and extent of which are unpredictable. Circumstances do not justify full implementation of Force Protection Condition Bravo measures, but certain measures from higher Force Protection Conditions may be necessary based on intelligence reports, or as a deterrent. Installation commanders must be able to

maintain this Force Protection Condition indefinitely.

- Force Protection Condition BRAVO (Increased and More Predictable Threat)

An increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists. Installation commanders must be able to maintain these Force Protection Condition measures for weeks without causing undue hardship, affecting operational capability, and aggravating relations with local author-

- Force Protection Condition CHAR-LIE (Incident occurs or indicated as immi-

An incident occurs, or intelligence is received that indicates imminent terrorist acts against personnel and facilities. These measures are intended to be short term: maintaining them for a long time will probably create hardship and affect peacetime activities of the unit and personnel.

- Force Protection Condition DELTA (Attack occurred or specific targeting is likely)

A terrorist attack occurred or intelligence indicates that terrorist action against a specific location or person is likely. Normally, this Force Protection Condition is a local condition.

(Information courtesy of the 21st Security Forces Squadron)



The Boeing X-32B Joint Strike Fighter program successfully accomplished all of its government-defined flight-test requirements Sunday.

## Joint Strike fighter X-32B completes government flight-test requirements

NAVAL AIR STATION PATUXENT RIVER, Md. The Boeing Joint Strike Fighter program has successfully accomplished all of its governmentdefined flight-test requirements. The program reached the final milestone July 8, making a series of short takeoffs here.

The X-32B concept demonstrator has validated the Boeing solution to the program's short-takeoff-and-vertical-landing requirements. Having met all Print News)

the defined requirements, including a flight in which the aircraft took off in less than 550 feet of roll, Boeing will continue performing a series of short takeoffs at successively shorter runway lengths later this month.

"In 58 flights to date, the X-32B has been outstanding," said Frank Statkus, Boeing vice president and JSF general manager.

(Courtesy of Air Force

## **News Briefs**

**GSA Vendor Fair** 

The General Supply Administration's next vendor fair is Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., in the Arnold Hall Ballroom on the Air Force Academy. More than 70 GSA vendors will be on hand to discuss the goods and services they offer. Regional GSA officials are also offering free training in the uses of the GSA Federal Supply Schedule, procurement with the SmartPay Purchase Cards, Federal Supply Schedules, as well as GSA's new environmental products, engineering and financial planning services

Registration is necessary, and be made online www.r8.gsa.gov, or by calling 1-888-999-4777

Arnold Hall is located off of I-25 at exit 156 (Air Force Academy North). Proceed straight to signs for Visitor Center. Arnold Hall is on the left just before the Visitor Center, and next to the Planetarium.

# DoD, bank agree to changes in credit card terms

Defense Department and Bank of America have agreed to a revised cardholder-terms-and-agreement policv for the government travel card. The new agreement is scheduled to take effect Aug. 10.

The new terms include increased fees for some transactions, according to Michael Weber, Air Force travel card program coordinator.

Although some fees have increased, he predicts only a small number of people will be affected.

"The Air Force has seen a significant decrease in travel credit card delinquencies," he said. "Since January, delinquencies have dropped from over 12 percent to currently 5 percent, and we continue to see a decline.'

He said people can avoid the higher cash-advance fees simply by using the credit card to charge their lodging, transportation, meals and rental car costs.

"We encourage cardholders to use the card as much as possible and avoid using the ATM for cash advances to pay expenses that should be charged directly to the card," he said. Nearly all other additional fees will be avoided by paying bills on time and being financially responsible, he added.

New terms include the follow-

- A late fee of \$29 at 75 days past closing date on the statement of the account in which the charge first appeared.
- A \$20 fee for expedited delivery of cards, which is reimbursable on the travel voucher; no fee will be charged for emergency replacement of lost/stolen/damaged cards while in a travel status.
  - A \$29 fee for returned checks.
- For cash advances, a fee of \$2 per transaction or 3 percent of the transaction amount, whichever is greater.
- Reduce credit lines on restricted and standard cards consistent with travel needs.

Bank of America will include the revised terms and agreement policy in the July statements, said Weber.

Cardholders should expect to see this new cardholder agreement in the mail around July 7 to 9. It is for information only, and no action is necessary by the cardholder.

Additionally, future changes include a split disbursement default option and procedures to implement salary offset for delinquent accounts, said Weber. These changes are expected to take effect later this fall. Additional information will be announced once it becomes available.

"Split disbursement is a convenience option that is already used by thousands of cardholders," Weber said. He said people who want to know the balance on their cards can go online to the Electronic Account Government Ledger System.

Information on how travelers can get access to EAGLS to view their balances on the Internet can be obtained from their unit agency program coordinator or "The Cardholder Program Guide," a booklet available from unit APCs.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print

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SPACE OBSERVER Friday, July 13, 2001 News

# **Army's first Space Operations Officer Qualification Course off to great start**

By Don Montoya

U.S. Army Space Command Public Affairs

After only two weeks into the Army's first seven-week Functional Area 40 Space Operations Officer Qualification Course, both course creators and students are shouting hooah!

The course is designed to train Army Officers who will use space to support the warfighter.

Officials from the Force Development and Integration Center, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and course creators began the intense seven-week course recently in Colorado Springs.

The first class consists of 14 military members including one lieutenant colonel and 13 majors. Course instruction is divided into three segments, beginning with 25 days of classroom instruction. A week is devoted to off-site visits to places such as the National Reconnaissance Office, National Imagery and Mapping Agency in Washington, D.C., and Fort Bragg, N.C. It included some hands-on training with the Army Space Program Office-developed Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities space support systems in use by Army warfighters.

The course also includes a 43-



The members of the 2001 Army's Space Operations Officer Qualifications Course take time out from their busy schedule to pose for a class photograph with Col. (P) Richard V. Geraci (front row, center), Deputy Commanding General for Operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and U.S. Army Space Command. The students spent time touring ARSPACE units earlier in the week.

individual critical tasks culminating in FDIC, upon graduation the destination rently with the Colorado Army National tional staffs and space systems program offices.

According to John Coons, Deputy hour command post exercise designed Division Chief of Proponency, Headquarters, and NRO. to test each student's proficiency in 24 Organization and Training Support,

graduation and assignment to opera- of these students will include assignments with the U.S. Army Space Command, SMDC, U.S. Space Command, U.S. Army Corps

In fact one of the students is cur- June of 2002.

Guard and upon graduation will segue into the newly formed 193rd Space Support Battalion.

Plans are under way for the next two FA40 classes slated for January and



# Thule Air Base chapel named best in AFSPC

By 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews 21st SW Public Affairs

Thule Air Base, Greenland, is known for its isolated location and its important space warning mission, but now its also recognized for outstanding chapel services.

The 12th Space Warning Squadron

chapel, led by Chaplain (Maj.) Richard H. Rosenfeld, Chaplain (Capt.) Alan Chouest, and Senior Airman Shaun C. Jansen, was recently named best small chapel in Air Force Space Command.

Small base chapels were rated in several categories including impact on wing mission, training, management, customer satisfaction, and ministries

and programs offered.

The chapel at Thule AB set the standard in many of these categories. The impact on the wing mission was apparent with a phenomenal 167 percent increase in attendance.

Customer satisfaction was demonstrated by the dynamic music, drama programs, and life affirming messages

that led to a 90 percent satisfaction rate among service members.

The base chapel provides eight worship services each week that help minister to the men and women at the "top of the world."

"Chaplains serve a vital in role in the counseling program they provide," said Tech. Sgt Michael T. O'Donnell, NCOIC, plans and programs for the headquarters chaplain. "The counseling that the chaplains provide is extremely important in a remote assignment, where our men and women are away from their friends and family."

The chapel staff conducts weekly worship services and religious education classes. They also develop and execute spiritual renewal and fellowship activities.



Chaplains also lead chapel ministry teams through training and pastoral support, while visiting personnel in work centers and quarters.

They advise United States commanders and the Danish Liaison Officer on religious, ethical, and quality of life issues. As the only religious program in the 300 square-mile Thule defense area, the chapel serves a large 145 military and 800 American and Danish civilians.



Courtesy photo

From left to right, Senior Airman Shaun C. Jansen, Chaplain (Maj.) Richard H. Rosenfeld and Chaplain (Capt.) Alan Chouest, make up the 12th Space Warning Squadron chapel staff at Thule Air Base, Greenland. The 12th SWS's chapel was recognized as the best small chapel in Air Force Space Command.

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## Waiting to refuel



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Raymond Nelson

A special operations MH-53 Pave Low from the 20th Special Operations Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Fla., lines up for aerial refueling from a MC-130P Combat Shadow as a storm brews on the horizon.

# TROA TOPS helps retired officers transition to civilian employment

Lt. Col. Mark Milardo

TROA Public Information officer

Are you an officer retiring or separating from the military and looking for a local job? If so, you may know that the key to starting a successful new career is networking. In fact, many career counselors claim that networking is the most important ingredient in getting the job you want. Networking in the job search involves connecting and interacting with people who can help you.

The Pikes Peak Chapter of the Retired Officers Association offers a program for retiring and separating officers known as TOPS: TROA Officer Placement Service. It can help you network your way to successful civilian employment.

Each week, TROA TOPS hosts employers who represent a broad spectrum of employment activities. They share their perspectives on their industry and discuss possible employment opportunities with our TOPS members. Technical firms, government agencies, defense contractors, entrepreneurs, and even non-profit agencies send representatives to TOPS to brief and meet with our members.

TOPS members meet for a pay-as-you-go breakfast Wednesdays from 7-8 AM at the Country Kitchen near Powers Blvd and Constitution. For more information or to join TROA, visit our website at <a href="https://www.pikespeaktroa.org">www.pikespeaktroa.org</a>, or call me at 488-8531, or Jim LeFebvre at 266-1569.

## Developing 21st century leaders gains permanent status

By Tech. Sgt. Chris Haug Pacific Air Forces News Service

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — The Air Force is changing the way it develops leaders to prepare for emerging forms of warfare in the 21st century.

Retired Maj. Gen. Charles D. Link, director of the Developing Aerospace Leaders program office, announced the program has now become a long-term solution toward developing aerospace leaders who understand the full spectrum of aerospace operations.

The DAL initiative, originally programmed for two years of study, changed status following a recent meeting of Air Force senior leaders.

While the Air Force's focus has always been on newer forms of technology, Link said the next two decades will be like no other time in Air Force history.

"We think the Air Force will trans-

form at a greater rate over the next 15 to 20 years than it has since its inception," Link said. "We have always been a transforming service but now space an information will complement our traditional air capabilities in a way that really demands some new competencies."

Future operations will include the development, support, employment and sustainment of air, space and information warfare, according to Link.

"Our effort focuses on the competencies necessary to make good on what the Air Force owes the American people," Link said. "We are building a plan that will outline what experiences, education, and training will most likely produce those competencies in our future leaders."

Link, a member of the senior executive service, believes that the current stove-pipe mode of building leaders in the Air Force is obsolete and will have to change.

The general explained that today's Air Force has airmen who have become

experts at integrating some of the service's traditional capabilities, "but as space and information continue to fulfill their promise, we will need airmen who will integrate those capabilities as well"

Link said that future leaders will begin their careers learning to be experts in their given fields, but at some point they will have to branch into other areas if they are going to increase their utility to serve.

"For example, in (U.S. Air Force) Space Command we will first develop a good 'space officer' who can represent Space Command across the force," Link said. "Then, in order for that officer to be a good senior leader, we will need to bring them through an experience that makes them comfortable with air and information operations.

To better define how the Air Force will accomplish this task, the DAL office has established integrated process teams led by subject matter experts defining more clearly what the

competency sets will be for the future of Air Force operations.

Once the competencies are defined, teams will map out what the career paths will be for potential leaders in the disciplines of air, space, information operations and, force support and materiel management

"We want to make sure we are growing leaders with the right set of competencies," Link said. "In the past, we sort of took what we got and made the best of it. Now, we plan to build the leaders from the start."

People working under this new development construct will know what competencies they will require to succeed because career paths will be clearly defined by the institution.

"People should be able to look at the information we put out and determine exactly what they will need to do in order to succeed by increasing their utility to serve in the Air Force," Link said.

Link added that the institution will manage its personnel in a way that will better match their talents and aspirations with the needs of the Air Force.

"We have to build leaders who are ready to bring us into an integrated operation that most effectively uses these aerospace capabilities," Link said.

"We aren't doing that..." Link said. "We are still only building air operations officers, communications officers, intelligence officers etc..."

Link said this change in career path focus does not mean that the Air Force no longer needs specialists in these areas.

"We still need specialists," Link said. "But, we don't need to leave people in their specialty for their whole career."

So, as the Air Force enters the 21st century, its senior leadership is demanding a new form of leader.

"Today, we are looking for a cadre of transformational leaders," Link said. "We want leaders who are confident, competent and credible in each of the mission areas.

"We plan to use the leader's specialty as a foundation that can be built upon," Link said. "We also plan to take the guess work out of what it takes to be a successful leader in the developing aerospace force." (Courtesy of Pacific Air Forces News Service)

## Unattended cooking fires annually kill, injure thousands

By Senior Airman Wesley S. Long Peterson AFB Fire Department

Serious injury or death may occur from unattended cooking fires in the home. The Peterson Air Force Base Fire Department had four such incidents last month alone.

Luckily no one was harmed, but the situations could have been otherwise. This is a very big problem with a simple answer. Read the facts below and perhaps they will save your life.

## Procedures for school physicals change

If your child is assigned to a family practice provider at the U.S. Air Force Academy and requires documentation of a physical for sports, camp or school, please call 333-2273 (select option 2, then 3) and leave a message for the provider. The provider and team will review your child's medical record. After a review of the medical record, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment, or asked to bring in the documentation if a physical is not needed, and the required documentation will be completed within 24 hours.

In addition, we are increasing our physical appointment type to accommodate your need for school/sports physicals during the week of July 16-20 and Aug. 6-10. Schedules are opened 35 days out. To get an appointment during the weeks designated above, call TriWest at 264-5000 (option 2).

If your child is enrolled in pediatrics, please call 264-5000 as they have their own scheduling process.

Prior to your appointment with the assigned provider you will need to visit the Immunizations clinic to ensure all vaccinations are current to avoid delay, as the assigned provider will need to review the immunization record prior to signing the paperwork.

TRICARE Prime enrollees access for physicals is within a 30 days time period. For more information, contact Capt. Marguerite Guillory at 333-5163. On average, there are 91,700 reported home fires per year that are associated with cooking equipment. They kill 327 people and injure 4,607 per year. Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home-fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cook-

ing fires. Three out of ten reported home fires start in the kitchen. That's more than any other place in the home.

In relation to cooking, heating elements left unattended are also a deadly risk. On average, 59,100 reported home fires per year are associated with heating equipment, killing 468 people and injuring 1,592. Heating fires are the second leading cause of home fires. However, December through February, heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires. Most heating fires involve space heaters, not central furnaces. Placing space heaters too close to combustibles is a major cause of fires.

So next time you're cooking or using supplemental heating devices in your home, take the time to monitor what you're doing, for the sake of your life and the lives of your family and friends.

If you have any questions, call the base fire prevention office at 556-7774.

B SPACE OBSERVER Friday, July 13, 2001 Feature

## Take steps to avoid fraud

Almost everyone has heard horror stories about fraud that's committed using a stolen name, address, social security number or credit card. Here is some critical information that will help limit the damage if this happens to you or someone you know.

First, cancel your credit cards immediately. The key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know who to call. It is important to keep these where you can find them easily.

Next, file a police report in the jurisdiction where your belongings were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and it is the first step toward an investigation.

Finally, call the three national credit-reporting organizations to place a fraud alert on your name and social security number. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. The numbers are: Equifax 1-800 525-6285, Experian (formerly TRW) 1-800-301-7195 and Trans Union 1-800-680-7289.

It will also help if you call the Social Security Administration fraud line at 1-800-269-0271.

Taking these steps immediately after your property is stolen will significantly decrease the risk of someone stealing your identity and ruining your credit.

## **Summer Hire**

## High school to college, student gets pay and experience with military

By Brandi Denham 21st SW Public Affairs

Being selected for the summer hire program was the best thing that could happen to help me get experience as a high school graduate entering college. I am one of 97 summer hires working with military facilities in Colorado Springs.

Our average age is 19 but we range from 16 at the youngest to 23 at the oldest. We work various types of jobs. I, for example, am working at the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs office, primarily with the Space Observer newspaper staff. The skills I'm gaining this summer are incredible, and so is the extra money I'm making. This is very convenient right before entering college this fall, since we all know how expensive college is.

Working with the Space Observer staff,  $\Gamma$  m learning many things that will benefit me in life, such as correct editing techniques, typesetting and how to prepare and layout pages. And the more I make corrections to newspaper pages, the faster my typing gets which, of course, is a crucial skill I will need when I work on all those college term papers.

I work mainly on the "FYI" page. To make the FYI page I take several bits of information from agencies around the base and add it to the page. Preparing the FYI page is very tedious. Once all this information is gathered, I edit it, lay it out on the page and also find graphics to go along with it in the paper.

I also prepare newspaper clippings for the commander, do tasks to help the rest of the administrative staff, and conduct interviews, write stories, and shoot photos. The fun part of my job is taking pictures and just exploring things that are happening on base.

On my job, I learn more and more about the military every day. I have a newfound respect for military members and the job they do.

The summer hire program is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the military and to gain valuable work experience and great skills that will help me get started on my chosen career path.

## Submit your articles to the Space Observer

Articles must be received at least 10 days prior to the date you want them to appear in the paper. Articles can be e-mailed to shane.sharp @peterson.af.mil or melanie.epperson @peterson.af.mil. For more information, call 556-7846

office at 556-4322.

#### News

## SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER WORKSHOP: The Pikes Peak Top-3 will sponsor this year's Sr.NCO workshop. All master sergeant-

selectees from the Peterson complex are invited to attend. The workshop will be held at the enlisted club on Aug. 9 and 10. RSVP to Master Sgt. Greg Webb at 556-4610.

FAMILY CHILD CARE OPPORTUNITY: Family Child Care is an Air Force program that allows military spouses an opportuni-



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CAREER FAIR: The Colorado Springs 2001 DoD regional summer career fair will be Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the World Arena. This event is sponsored by Fort Carson, Peterson AFB, the Air Force Academy, the American Heart Association and the Employment News. It is open to the general public and will have over 100 local, regional, national, and international company representatives in attendance. For additional information, call 526-1002.

ASIAN AMERICAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: The newly formed AAPI committee will hold its second meeting Wednesday at 3 p.m. in Building. 350 atrium. This forum is open to all interested Peterson Complex civil service and military members. Among the topics discussed will be how to improve civilian employment opportunities for AAPI personnel within under-represented career fields and/or progression into upper mobility positions within the federal employment market. Another committee goal is to assist military members transitioning to a civilian life who want to continue working for the government as civil service employees. For more information, contact Yong Sharp at 567-4501.

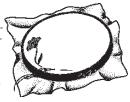
CHANGE IN HOURS OF OPERATION: The Peterson Air Force Base flight surgeon's office clinic hours of operation are changing Aug. 1. The new hours will be Mondays through Fridays, 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. If you have questions, call 556-1187.

AIR FORCE CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MARKETING BRIEFING: This briefing is a presentation of a model from which each civilian employee can select and pursue the appropriate course toward advancement and greater responsibility. Ronald L. Orr, assistant deputy chief of staff for installations and logistics, will teach the briefing July 31, 12:30 p.m. at the base theater. For more information call 554-2556.

SLEEPING BEAUTY: The Missoula Children's Theater's will perform Sleeping Beauty at the Peterson auditorium today, 7 p.m. and Saturday, 3 p.m. All performances are free. For information, call 556-7220.

#### NEEDLEWORK DEMONSTRATION:

Brenda Bartista will demonstrate traditional needlework and embroidery at the Peterson library July 21, 4-5p.m. The demo is free. For information, call 556-7462.



#### **Education Center** 556-4064

AIR WAR COLLEGE: Recruiting for the Air War College nonresident studies seminar program is now underway. This is one way to complete senior professional military education, combining selfstudy with a formal, semi-structured meeting environment. Seminars are scheduled to start in early August and will run until June 2002. The program is open to active duty, guard, and reserve colonels, lieutenant colonels, and lieutenant colonel-selectees (or the equivalent) of any component of the U.S. armed forces and civilian employees (GS/GM-13 or above). Applications for enrollment into the seminar program are now being accepted. To enroll, use the application form available at www.au.af.mil/au/awc/enrolppr.htm. The next seminar academic year begins August 2002. For more information, contact Mike Madsen at 556-

AIR COMMAND and STAFF COLLEGE: The Air Command and Staff College seminar will start in August. Majors or major-selects from all services are eligible to enroll as are GS-11s and above. Application forms available at the education center. After Tuesday, the education office will enter the enrollments into base level personnel management system which flows to Air University. Course material will be mailed directly to students once enrollment has been processed. The material will consist of a multi-media CD-ROM and course books. Seminars meet for approximately 10 and a half months, three hours per week. The number of missed sessions per student is no longer a factor, and attendance will not be tracked or recorded. For more information, call Lisa Simon at 556-7392.

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY: Colorado Christian University will hold an accelerated degree completion information



accelerated programs. During the seminar, representatives will discuss admission policy, transfer credit including Community College of the Air Force, CLEP and college credit for work experience, financial assistance and course schedules. For more information, call Tom Boven, academic advisor at 573-

TOP UP LAW CHANGE: Under a new law signed by the president last month, the amount of benefit a person uses will reduce his or her Montgomery GI Bill entitlement. "Entitlement" is the number of months of MGIB benefits people are entitled to use. The amount of entitlement charged for top up payments is determined by dividing the amount of top-up payments by a person's full-time institutional rate. The present full time rate is \$650 per month which means that one month of entitlements will be charged for each \$650 paid out by the VA under the Top Up program. This provision is retroactive, so people who already received top up payments will be affected.

#### **Finance** 556-4770

ATTENTION TRAVELERS: When submitting travel vouchers for payment, include three copies of your orders, three copies of your voucher and receipts for airline tickets, billeting, rental car and any

#### **Youth Center** 556-7220

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM: The R.P. Lee youth center offers quality, accredited morning and afternoon programs for preschool or school-age children, two-three days a week. Registration for the before and after school programs and the part day preschool program is scheduled for

July 19, 9-11 a.m., at the youth center. Call Karen or Robin at 556-7220.

INDOOR SOCCER: Sign up for indoor soccer until the end of The season starts in August.

SPORTS DEPARTMENT:

The youth sports 🛦 department looking for youth coaches to coach indoor soccer,basketball and flag football.

YOUTH BASEBALL: The youth center will host youth baseball games Saturday and July 21 at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the youth fields.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER CAMP: A major league soccer camp is planned for July 23-28, 5-7 p.m. Call 556-7220 for more information.

DOUBLES POOL TOURNAMENT: A doubles pool tournament will be held at the teen center on Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

HALF COURT CONTEST: A half court contest is slated for at the teen center on July 20, 7 p.m. There will be prizes for winners

VIDEO GAME-A-THON: A video game-athon will be held at the teen center on July 21 from 5-11 p.m. Play station and N-64 games will be available for play.

BASEBALL CEREMONY: The closing ceremony for baseball will be on July 28 at the youth fields, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

#### **Family Support Center** 556-6141

Classes are held in the family support center classroom, 135 Dover Street, Building 350, Room 1016, unless otherwise specified. Registration is required for all FSC classes. To register, call the FSC at 556-6141 or stop by the FSC classroom.

JOB ORIENTATION: For an overview of the local job market and a look at how family support can help with your job search, sign up for this orientation offered July 26, 1-2:30 p.m.

INVESTMENT SEMINAR: The seminar will be taught in two parts, Tuesday and Thursday, 1-4 p.m. The topics of discussion will be understanding mutual funds and exchange traded funds, taxes, expense ratios, loads and no loads. The instructor will be Professor James Agresta. The seminar will be held in Building 350, Suite 107. Call 556-6141 to register

RESUME REVIEW CLASS: There will be a resume review class July 26, 9-11a.m. To take full advantage of this class, bring a draft copy of your resume. The employment team will coach you on ways to improve your product in order to secure the job vou have targeted.

CHOOSING THE "RIGHT" SCHOOL: The Peterson relocation assistance program can provide a entitled, booklet

Elementary and Schools." Questions parents need to ask, a school checklist, informational resources and other valuable suggestions are included in this booklet. For a copy, stop by the family support center.



## People



#### **Airman 1st Class** Michelle Taft wins **DEER/RAPIDS** Certificate of Excellence Award

The DEERS/RAPIDS Program office established the Certificate of Excellence Award Program to honor and recognize individuals within each military department who have made outstanding contributions to the DEERS/RAPIDS program. The award recognizes those individuals who are performing at exceptional levels.

Taft earned this award for maintaining excellent customer service at the 821st Support Squadron, Buckley Air Force Base. According to her supervisor, Taft's professional attitude and desire to go above and beyond are key attributes to her success.

## Team 21 members earn cash rewards for improvement ideas

The Air Force IDEA Program is an incentive program to reward submitters for their ideas that benefit the government by streamlining processes or improving or increasing productivity and efficiency. It also recognizes individuals for intangible benefits such as improving morale or working conditions.

Brian Gibson, 302nd Maintenance Squadron, was awarded \$200 for his idea at the MAJCOM level to protect C-130 main landing gear struts from rocks. He was previously awarded \$771 for base level implementation of the same idea.

Paula Fox, 721st Civil Engineer Squadron, was awarded \$200 for her idea of Environmentally Safe Elevator Oil Replacement.

Andrew Conder, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron, was awarded \$10,000 for his idea to utilize polyurethane foam to lift sunken concrete floors at Thule Air Base.

12 SPACE OBSERVER Friday, July 13, 2001 **Feature** 

## Ecstasy: the drug, the myth, the danger

By Master Sgt. **Austin Carter** AFSPC Public Affairs

There is no vesterday, no tomorrow, no regret. There is only joy and happiness. And there are no ill effects; it's non-addictive.

That's the myth on the rave scene.

Ecstasy also called XTC, (or clinically, MDMA 3, 4methylendioxymethamphetamine) has quickly become the drug of choice for partygoers who gather at impromptu allnight dances known as raves. Illicit drugs have been part of the culture since bathtub gin. Much like predecessors marijuana, heroin and cocaine, ecstasy is in vogue. Its perception among users as a "safe" drug makes it even more popular, but no less deadly

Many younger Air Force members, citizens of the rave nation before and after their enlistment, are now dragging the habit of feel-good drugs off the dance floor and into the military.

In Air Force Space Command last year, drugrelated courts-martial increased 33 percent and Article 15 measures jumped by 17 percent.

"We cannot allow this to continue," said Gen. Ed Eberhart, AFSPC commander. "Our people are simply too important to allow drug abuse to continue threatening lives, families, careers and the mission.'

A space command drug abuse prevention task force was established in April to look into this new drug's effects and use within the command.

According to Col. Stephen Alcock, deputy AFSPC surgeon and head of the new task force, although there are many choices of club drugs, ecstasy is the main foe.

"Unfortunately, ecstasy just fits in at the rave parties," he said. "It's relatively inexpensive and too easily attain-

"It has a clean appeal," said Special Agent Kenneth Vincellette, Air Force Office of Special Investigations Region 8. "It has the reputation of a good boy. Anyone can take it even honor grads. It doesn't have the bad reputation of 'classic' drugs.'

The drug acts as a stimulant as well as a hallucinogenic. Senses are more acute. Colors seem more alive to the trance dancer. Most importantly, it lowers the inhibition level, and everyone seems happy. Especially the drug dealer.

For a relatively modest investment of around \$1 per pill, manufacturers can make and smuggle the drug to the dealer. The dealer wholesales that same pill in the United States for many times that. By the time the raver pops it into his mouth, he's swallowing a \$20-\$40 pill. A recent study estimates that more than 2 million pills are smuggled into the United States per week.

Manufacturers usually imprint their product with a well-known brand symbol, such as Mitsubishi or Nike, to distinguish it from competitors. No matter what brand is preferred, users like its relatively short duration in the body's system. Within three days of ingestion, it's undetectable. For a Friday night rave, that spells safety to the user. Past urine analysis tests have not even screened for the drug, but the Air Force is getting wise to ecstasy



The Department of Defense is winning the war on such drugs as Ecstasy, shown above, which started during the Vietnam Era. Instances of military members' use of illegal drugs are at a 20-year low.

Urine testing recorded only 12 XTC users in 1999. The detection rate went up nearly five times in 2000. Most of those identified were young enlisted members, 18 to 25; the Air Force's target population for recruiting.

The problem doesn't look like it's going away. AFOSI estimates that by the time the final numbers are tallied, there will be 200 percent more cases against ecstasy users this year than last year.

The problem doesn't end at the judicial branch either. Ecstasy use has medical ramifications. Use sometimes results in severe dehydration or exhaustion. It can also cause nausea, hallucinations, chills, sweating, increases in body temperature, tremors, muscle cramps, blurred vision and involuntary teeth clenching and grinding. There have been reports from police of ravers who bit off their own

fingers and tongues.

"The sensitivity to light and touch increases, and energy increases," Vincellette said. "But you need more and more, and it can permanently interfere with brain's ability to produce serotonin. Your body sensor system shuts down."

It's a risk that ravers seem willing, even rushing, to take.

"The ravers say they're the safest drugs, but they're ODing on it, said Staff Sgt. J.D. Morgan, a former criminal investigator at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. "Some fall into comas and have to be kept on life support. One dead kid had a temperature of 116 degrees. He fried from the inside out."

Vincellette said that education is the answer for the public, especially youth, and for the police investigating.

"It's a readiness issue, so it's getting more attention

now," he said. "Our investigations are more efficient. We're looking harder. At one time, we weren't even screening for these club drugs. But urine analysis can be adjusted as the drugs change."

The wide acceptance of drugs among youth has investigators pushing for urine tests at basic training, professional military education courses and on arrival at a base.

Still, the command drug task force leader maintained. it's a little soon to panic.

"I don't think our problem is bigger than any other command," Alcock said. "But anybody using drugs is a problem. In my mind, we have to give tools to our commanders and first sergeants to educate people. We don't want people to make dumb decisions. We have high standards, and we never lower our bar.'

## Air Force Demand **Reduction Program** announces new levels of abuse

By Claudie V. Cleveland Demand Reduction Program Manager

Unfortunately, like many areas, people who want to abuse drugs will find a way. Ritalin is among those that some people are abusing now.

The National Institute of Drug Abuse calls Ritalin a valuable drug for treating attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children. Growing numbers indicate the prescribed use by adults as well.

"There have been reports of its abuse by people

for whom it is not a prescribed medication," Agency representatives said.

In fact, Ritalin is now on the Drug Enforcement Administration's top 10 list of illegally diverted prescription drugs, perhaps because it is abundant. In the past decade, Ritalin prescriptions increased by about 700 percent. Various sources reported widespread theft and illegal sales on the street, on college campuses and in high school cafeterias.

The Air Force Demand Reduction Program primarily reaches middle school students through the Project Alert outreach service. Students and parents receive information on illicit drug use during a comprehensive 11-week program.

Research shows that people with ADHD do not become addicted to Ritalin at treatment dosages. However, because it stimulates the central nervous system (less than amphetamines but more than caffeine), wilv drug users have appropriated it for misuse. Taken in higher doses than prescribed or in combination with other drugs, Ritalin can be abused.

Two other drugs that have caused recent concern in the military and civilian environments are Jones Juice and androstenedione. According to Brooks Air Force Base Drug Testing Laboratory officials, Jones Juice is highly unlikely to cause a positive urinalysis.

The next drug in the crosshairs is androstenedione. This is an over-the-counter nutritional supplement taken to enhance athletic performance.

According to authorities at Brooks AFB, the body can metabolize androstenedione into testosterone, but there is evidence that this conversion may be limited

The National Olympic Committee, National Football League and National Collegiate Athletic Association currently ban androstenedione, but to date Brooks AFB has not received an Air Force directive banning its use.

For more information on these and other illicit drugs, contact the Demand Reduction Program office

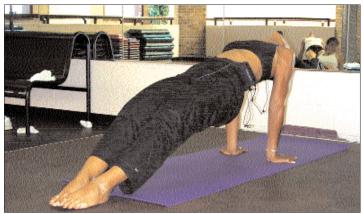


Photo by Margie Arnold

Yoga instructor Tracy Jennings-Hill demonstrates how to perform a back stretch.

# Yoga helps build strength, flexibility

#### By Margie Arnold

21st Services Squadron marketing

During class I found my limbs contorted as they'd never been before and muscles stretching in unfamiliar ways. All the while the instructor was reminding us to breathe.

Yoga class began with us taking slow, deep breaths in one position and exhaling slowly in another ... breathing and stretching.

And, believe it or not, my body actually felt good afterward; taller, a bit more flexible, relaxed yet energetic.

"Yoga," said instructor Tracy Jennings-Hill, "is all about breathing, flexibility and strength. It allows the body and mind to relax and allows you to know your body."

When I looked around at the class, it seemed strange to think that by being still and holding a yoga position we were not only working our muscles but working them hard. Jennings-Hill explained that stretching a muscle, holding it and breathing builds strength and flexibility. Regular yoga practice builds muscle memory, and the positions become easier to do.

"That's when you move to more challenging positions and work your muscles harder, and then yoga becomes aerobic," she said.

Jennings-Hill has been teaching aerobics for two

years at the Fitness Center and began teaching yoga July 6.

The class meets every Friday at 12:05 p.m. in the center's upstairs exercise room.

I go as often as I can, and I think everyone should give it a try. If you decide to come out, make sure you wear comfortable clothing that allows you to move freely.

For more information, call 556-1515.

## **Sports**

#### **Shorts Sports**

Chevenne Mountain fun run - There will be a Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station will host a fun run Saturday, 11:30 a.m. Call 556-1515 for more informa-

Floor hockey tournament -A floor hockey tournament is scheduled for Monday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the fitness center. Call Chris Hicks or at 556-4475 for details.

Three-on-three basketball tournament - There will be a three-on-three basketball tournament July 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 556-1515 to sign up and for more information. Chevenne Mountain wallyball tournament - A Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station wallyball tour-

nament is slated July 23-25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 556-1515 for more information. Air Force Form 303s due -The Air Force Form 303s for men's soccer are due today at the fitness center. Call 556-4475 for more information. Aquatics center

Registration for the next session of children's swim classes begins Tuesday. Classes begin July 23. Call 556-4608 for details.

#### Fitness center jobs

The Peterson Air Force Base fitness center has openings for one male personal trainer, one Tae Kwon Do instructor and one Tai Chi instructor. Contact Senior Airman Bonnie Miller or at 556-1515 for details.

# Soccer playoffs begin

By Senior Airman Shane Sharp 21st SW Public Affairs

The 21st Services Squadron edged past AFMC to take the victory in the season's first intramural soccer playoff game.

Both teams struggled to score early in the first half, due to strong defense and missed shots.

Despite the tough start, the AFMC squad struck first, scoring off a corner-kick play.

The 21st SVS found themselves down 1-0, and poured on the offense with several shots on goal. Unfortunatly, none of them found the mark.

"We outshot them big time," said Pat Bennett, 21st SVS. "Even though we controlled the ball a lot of the time we had a lot of near misses."

The misses ended for the services team when Ben Beck, 21st SVS coach, scored his team's first goal late in the half.

Second half play closely



Photos by Senior Airman Shane Sharp

Pat Bennet, 21st SVS, defends the ball from Greg Rickerd, AFMC, during intramural playoff action Monday.

resembled the first half, with tough defense on both ends of the field. The services team continued attacking the goal and eventually scored the game winning goal.

AFMC pushed the ball

hard to try and pull even to send the game into overtime, but couldn't produce any

When the game ended, the services team had won the first game of the playoffs, 2-1.

## **302nd Airlift Wing** golf tournament

Aug. 6

Open to all activeduty, Guard and Reserve members

There is a registration fee of \$5.

Participants are also responsible for their own green fees and rentals.

Players must register by Monday.

Call Master Sgt. Robert Bostick or Staff Sgt. John Miller at 556-4001.

